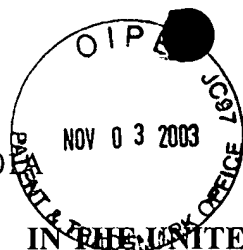


STONEST.00



PATENT

#9 11/10/03
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Ray Herrera
Appl. No. : 09/696,841
Filed : October 25, 2000
For : SLOTTED KEY STORAGE
DEVICE
Examiner : Joseph C Merek

Group Art Unit 3727

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 2327, Arlington, VA 22202, on

October 30, 2003

(Date)
Glen L. Nuttall, Reg. No. 46,188

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 2327
Arlington, VA 22202

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed October 1, 2003, in connection with the above-captioned application, Applicant elects to proceed with examination on the merits of the invention identified by the Examiner as Group II, drawn to Claims 12-15 and 19-25.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: 10/30/03

By: [Signature]

Glen L. Nuttall
Registration No. 46,188
Attorney of Record
Customer No. 20,995
(949) 760-0404

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103003



3727

PATENT

Case Docket No. STONEST.001A

Date: October 30, 2003

Page 1

In re application of : Ray Herrera
App. No. : 09/696,841
Filed : October 25, 2000
For : SLOTTED KEY STORAGE DEVICE
Examiner : Joseph C. Merek
Art Unit : 3727

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

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October 30, 2003

(Date)

Glen L. Nuttall, Reg. No. 46,188

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith in the above-identified application is:

- (X) Response to Restriction Requirement in one (1) page.
- (X) The present application qualifies for small entity status under 37 C.F.R. § 1.27.
- (X) Return prepaid postcard.
- (X) Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

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